

## CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. A method for sharing clipboard data between different computers of a group, comprising:
  - commanding a first computer of the group to copy or cut selected data to a clipboard of the first computer;
  - causing said first computer to send a message to at least a second computer of the group that the data on said clipboard has been updated;
  - providing said second computer with access to said clipboard; and
  - commanding an application operating on said second computer to paste said selected data.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said commanding said first computer consists of causing said first computer to copy or cut said selected data.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein said command said application operating on said second computer consists of causing said second computer to paste said selected data.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said providing said second computer with access to said clipboard comprises providing said second computer with information of each format in which said selected data is stored on said clipboard.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein said commanding said application comprises obtaining a single, application-compatible format of said selected data.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein said providing does not include copying said selected data to a clipboard of said second computer.

7. A method for transmitting data in a registered format from one computer to another computer, comprising:

providing an operating system of a first computer running an application in which a copy command is issued with a string name;

generating a message on said first computer that clipboard data on said first computer has been updated and including said string name that corresponds to said registered format;

transmitting said message to at least one second computer;

issuing a paste command on said at least one second computer, comprising generating a request including said string identifier and transmitting said request to said first computer; and

in response to said request from said at least one second computer, transmitting requested data from said clipboard of said first computer to said clipboard of said at least one second computer.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said operating system on said first computer randomly generates a numeric format identifier following said providing said operating system with said string name.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein, following said transmitting said message, said at least one second computer presents said string name to said operating system thereon and said operating system generates a numeric format identifier to be associated with said requested data on said clipboard of said at least one second computer.

10. A computer network, comprising:

a first computer including at least one first processing element operating under at least partial control of a program that:

causes said at least one first processing element to recognize when an operating system associated therewith has caused data to be applied to a clipboard;

and

causes said at least one first processing element to send a message to at least one second computer of the computer network when data on said clipboard of said first computer is changed; and

said at least one second computer including at least one second processing element operating under at least partial control of a program that:

causes said at least one second processing element to receive said message; and upon receiving a command from an application running on said second computer, retrieves at least a portion of said data from said clipboard of said first computer and imports at least said portion of said data into said application.

11. The computer network of claim 10, wherein said program causes said at least one first processing element to recognize when a copy or cut command has been issued by an application running on said first computer.

12. The computer network of claim 11, wherein said command from said application running on said second computer comprises a paste command.

13. The computer network of claim 10, wherein said message sent by said at least one first processing element includes information about a plurality of formats of said data available on said clipboard.

14. The computer network of claim 13, wherein said program that at least partially controls said at least one second processing element is configured to select a format of at least said portion of said data from said plurality of formats to be imported into said application.

15. A computer network, comprising:  
a first computer including at least one first processing element programmed for:  
copying or cutting selected data to a clipboard; and

sending a message to at least one second computer of the computer network when  
data on said clipboard of said first computer is changed; and  
said at least one second computer including at least one second processing element  
operating under at least partial control of a program for:  
causes said at least one second processing element to receive said message; and  
upon receiving a command from an application running on said second computer,  
retrieving at least a portion of said data from said clipboard of said first  
computer and importing at least said portion of said data into said  
application.